

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1-3 (Cancelled).

4 (Currently Amended). A rack oven, comprising:

a heat exchanger section and a rack receiving section, the rack receiving section including a door to provide access thereto; and

an air flow system including at least one blower and an air flow path for enabling air to circulate from the heat exchanger section where it is heated, into the rack receiving section for transferring heat to food products, and back to the heat exchanger section for further heating, wherein the air flow path includes at least one passage from the heat exchanger section to the rack receiving section, where the passage is located proximate to a wall that includes an internally facing surface exposed to a rack receiving location of the rack receiving section and configured such that heated air from the heat exchanger section is directed along ~~an~~ the internally facing surface of the wall so as to attach to and flow along the internally facing surface of the wall from one side of the rack receiving section toward an opposite side of the rack receiving section;

wherein the at least one passage comprises at least one vertically extending slot, wherein the vertically extending slot is formed adjacent the internally facing surface of the wall and includes a vane that overlaps with the internally facing surface of the wall;

wherein a distance of overlap of the vane and the internally facing surface of the wall is at least about two inches.

5 (Cancelled).

6 (Cancelled).

7 (Original). The rack oven of claim 4 wherein a spacing between the wall and the vane is in the range of about 0.25 inches to about 0.75 inches.

8-10 (Cancelled).

11 (Currently Amended). A rack oven, comprising:

a heat exchanger section and a rack receiving section, the rack receiving section including a door to provide access thereto;

an air flow system including at least one blower and an air flow path for enabling air to circulate from the heat exchanger section where it is heated, into the rack receiving section for transferring heat to food products, and back to the heat exchanger section for further heating, wherein the air flow path includes at least one passage from the heat exchanger section to the rack receiving section, where the passage is located proximate to a wall that includes an internally facing surface exposed to a rack receiving location of the rack receiving section and configured such that heated air from the heat exchanger section is directed along an the internally facing surface of the wall so as to attach to and flow along the internally facing surface of the wall from one side of the rack receiving section toward an opposite side of the rack receiving section; and

an air deflector positioned toward the opposite side of the rack receiving section to direct the heated air off of the wall.

12 (Currently Amended). ~~The rack oven of claim 11~~ A rack oven, comprising:

a heat exchanger section and a rack receiving section, the rack receiving section including a door to provide access thereto;

an air flow system including at least one blower and an air flow path for enabling air to circulate from the heat exchanger section where it is heated, into the rack receiving section for transferring heat to food products, and back to the heat exchanger section for further heating, wherein the air flow path includes at least one passage from the heat exchanger section to the rack receiving section, where the passage is located proximate to a wall and configured such that heated air from the heat exchanger section is directed along an internally facing surface of the

wall so as to attach to and flow along the internally facing surface of the wall from one side of the rack receiving section toward an opposite side of the rack receiving section; and  
an air deflector positioned toward the opposite side of the rack receiving section to direct the heated air off of the wall, wherein the deflector comprises at least one adjustable deflector.

13 (Original). The rack oven of claim 12 wherein the deflector comprises a plurality of vertically distributed adjustable deflectors.

14 (Original). The rack oven of claim 1 further comprising an overhead rack rotating mechanism located within the rack receiving section.

15 (Original). The rack oven of claim 1 wherein the heated air from the heat exchanger section attaches to and flows along the internally facing surface of the wall for a travel distance of at least two-thirds of a total distance from the passage to the opposite side of the rack receiving section.

16 (Currently Amended). A rack oven, comprising:

a heat exchanger section and a rack receiving section, the rack receiving section including a door to provide access thereto;

an air flow system including at least one blower and an air flow path for enabling air to circulate from the heat exchanger section where it is heated, into the rack receiving section for transferring heat to food products, and back to the heat exchanger section for further heating, wherein the air flow path includes at least one passage from the heat exchanger section to the rack receiving section, where the passage is located proximate to a wall that includes an internally facing surface exposed to a rack receiving location of the rack receiving section and configured such that heated air from the heat exchanger section is directed along an the internally facing surface of the wall so as to attach to and flow along the internally facing surface of the wall from one side of the rack receiving section toward an opposite side of the rack receiving section; and

a rack positioned within the rack receiving section, wherein the heated air from the heat exchanger section attaches to and flows along the internally facing surface of the wall and is deflected off of the wall by a deflector onto a portion of the rack spaced away from the passage.

17 (Original). The rack oven of claim 16 wherein the rack is integrated with the oven.

18 (Original). The rack oven of claim 16 wherein the rack comprises a wheeled rack that is capable of movement into and out of the oven.

19 (Cancelled).

20 (Currently Amended). A convection oven, comprising:

a heat exchanger section and a product receiving section, the product receiving section including a door to provide access thereto;

an air flow system including at least one blower and an air flow path for enabling air to circulate from the heat exchanger section where it is heated, into the product receiving section for transferring heat to food products, and back to the heat exchanger section for further heating, wherein the air flow path includes at least one passage ~~vertical-louver system~~ providing flow communication between the heat exchanger section to the product receiving section, where the ~~vertical-louver system~~ passage is located proximate to a wall that includes an internally facing surface exposed to a rack receiving location of the rack receiving section and configured such that heated air from the heat exchanger section is directed along ~~an~~ the internally facing surface of the wall so as to attach to and flow along the internally facing surface of the wall from one side of the product receiving section toward an opposite side of the product receiving section; and

an air deflector positioned toward the opposite side of the product receiving section to direct the heated air away from the wall.

21 (Currently Amended). ~~The convection oven of claim 20~~ A convection oven, comprising:

a heat exchanger section and a product receiving section, the product receiving section including a door to provide access thereto;

an air flow system including at least one blower and an air flow path for enabling air to circulate from the heat exchanger section where it is heated, into the product receiving section for transferring heat to food products, and back to the heat exchanger section for further heating, wherein the air flow path includes a passage providing flow communication between the heat exchanger section to the product receiving section, where the passage is located proximate to a wall and configured such that heated air from the heat exchanger section is directed along an internally facing surface of the wall so as to attach to and flow along the internally facing surface of the wall from one side of the product receiving section toward an opposite side of the product receiving section; and

an air deflector positioned toward the opposite side of the product receiving section to direct the heated air away from the wall, wherein the deflector comprises at least one adjustable deflector.

22 (Original). The convection oven of claim 21 wherein the deflector comprises a plurality of vertically distributed adjustable deflectors.

23 (Cancelled).

24 (Cancelled).

25 (Currently Amended). In a convection oven having a circulating air flow between a heat exchanger section and a product receiving section, the heat exchanger section located to one side of the product receiving section, a method comprising the steps of:

effecting a transfer of heated air from the heat exchanger section to a side of the product receiving section opposite the one side by directing heated air along an internally facing surface of a wall of the product receiving section such that the heated attaches to and flows along the internally facing surface of the wall from the one side to the side opposite the one side, where the

internally facing surface of the wall is exposed to a rack receiving location of the rack receiving section; and

directing the heated air away from the wall when the heated air is near the side opposite the one side;

a deflector extends from the wall to direct the heated air off the wall.

26 (Currently Amended). ~~The method of claim 25~~ In a convection oven having a circulating air flow between a heat exchanger section and a product receiving section, the heat exchanger section located to one side of the product receiving section, a method comprising the steps of:

effecting a transfer of heated air from the heat exchanger section to a side of the product receiving section opposite the one side by directing heated air along an internally facing surface of a wall of the product receiving section such that the heated attaches to and flows along an internally facing surface of the wall from the one side to the side opposite the one side; and

directing the heated air away from the wall when the heated air is near the side opposite the one side;

a deflector extends from the wall to direct the heated air off the wall, including the further step of adjusting an orientation of the deflector relative to the wall.

27 (Cancelled).

28 (Cancelled).

29 (Cancelled).